

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Bonamici, Kruse, Morse, Hass
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Metsger
Prepared By:	Dana Richardson, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires school that confers or offers to confer academic degree to be licensed as career school for course or program that does not lead to academic degree until school meets specified requirements. Provides that students in career schools are eligible for Tuition Protection Fund moneys under certain circumstances. Clarifies types of schools subject to laws that regulate career schools. Provides circumstances under which Superintendent of Public Instruction can consider career school applicants' prior history of operating career schools. Directs superintendent to require criminal records checks on career school faculty and others who hold positions of authority in operating career school if school offers courses to minors. Allows superintendent to require criminal records check of any career school agents who will have contact with persons under 18 years of age on behalf of the school. Provides exception. Authorizes superintendent to place career school on probation or deny, suspend, or revoke career-school license if individual who holds position of authority was convicted of specified crimes. Provides for issuance of conditional license for career school. Permits transfer of career-school license under certain circumstances.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Sharing information on bad actors between states
- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Private career schools instruct students in a variety of career fields including computer technology, cosmetology, health care, real estate and business. Over the past several years, there have been incidents that have demonstrated the need to provide protections for students enrolled in the approximately 300 private career schools licensed through the Department of Education. House Bill 2108A expands eligibility and coverage for career school students under the Tuition Protection Fund and gives the superintendent expanded authority to require criminal background checks for employees and teachers at career schools that offer courses to students under the age of 18 years. The measure also provides the superintendent additional authority to investigate career schools during the licensure process including reviewing applicants' prior history in operating other career schools.